

LOFAX 6

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 SECURITY INFORMATION
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR (Kazakh SSR)

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 15 Feb. 1952

SUBJECT Ust Kamenogorsk Airfield
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1. The airfield was north of Ust Kamenogorsk (49°56'N/82°36'E), Kazakh SSR, and northwest of the road to Leninogorsk (50°21'N/83°31'E). Soviet civilians said that the field was to be improved, but there were no installations prior to [redacted]
2. A biplane landed at the field two or three times a week in the winter months and once every day in the summer months.
3. The field was 2 km square and was about 4 km northeast of the town. A brandy distillery with workshops, a railroad siding and a high metal smokestack were adjacent to the field. There were no runways, taxiways or railroad tracks at the field.
4. A PW detail constructed a hangar and an administration building with a weather station at the field in 1946/1947. Cantonment buildings were beside the administration building.
5. There was intensive flying with about 20 biplanes, two twin-engine planes (retractable landing gear, silver-gray paint) and three Ju-52s of German make. The biplanes were used for stunt and night flying, the twin-engine planes were used only for practice take-offs and landings.
6. The airfield, estimated at 3 km square, was northeast of the town, northwest of the Ulba River and the road to Leninogorsk.
7. Except for an administration building, no buildings were seen.
8. The following planes were seen at the field:

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- a. Six to eight biplanes.
- b. Douglas commercial planes, allegedly flying the Alma-Ata (43°15'N/76°57'E) route, made daily landings and take-offs from the field.
- c. A Ju-52 landed every second day. Soviets said that this plane carried gold from Altai. Many commercial planes made intermediate landings at the field at irregular intervals.

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